



**Name of Project:** The Kentucky Resource Market Place

**Name of Organization:** Kentucky Department for Aging and Independent Living

**Principle of Choices for Independence:** Empowerment/Access to Information and Services

### **Description**

The Kentucky Resource Market is the Commonwealth of Kentucky's response to the need for a one-stop virtual system for accessing information and assistance for individuals who are aging and those with disabilities. This system will allow anyone at any agency, public library, or in their home with Internet access to find information about services and supports to assist them with their own needs or the needs of their family and friends. There will be a Resource Market located at both the state level and within each of the 15 Area Agencies on Aging to provide face to face or telephone assistance.

This project incorporates elements of the Aging and Disability Resource Center Grant, legislation from the 2006 state legislative session to provide a resource center for aging caregivers of individuals with mental retardation, and over 40 years of work group and task force discussion about creation of a single point of entry to services for aging and disabilities.

The Kentucky Resource Market Place will provide individuals for all options for meeting their needs both public and private. Often individuals make a choice for nursing home care based solely on information about one this single source of long term living support. This information is often biased and limited on the knowledge of the person presenting it or the need of the hospital for timely discharge. The Resource Market Place will be able to counsel families and individuals regarding all the options for care and access to all benefits for which they are entitled. The ultimate goal will be to allow clients and their families at risk of nursing home care to make informed decisions.

Slowing deterioration, preventing disease or providing a safe environment is dependent on having both the information and support for life changes. The Resource Market will provide fact sheets, in-home assessments and linkage to support systems for individuals at risk of preventable disease and or appropriate treatment of current disease to allow the individuals to improve or maintain their health and remain in the community for as long as possible.

Partners in the Kentucky Resource Market Place are the Kentucky Department for Aging and Independent Living; Department for Medicaid Services; Department for Community Based Services; Area Agencies on Aging; Department for Mental Health and Mental Retardation Services; as well as advocates and consumers (Arc of Kentucky, AARP, Kentucky Home Health Association, providers and individuals).

- Implementation of the ADRC Pilot in the Northern Kentucky Area Agency on Aging
- Inclusion of Senate Bill 174 into the Market Place concept. This bill provided funding to create a statewide resource directory for those aging caregivers of individuals with mental retardation.
- Funding for statewide replication of the Pilot to all 15 Area Agencies on Aging.
- Partnership with the Department for Medicaid for the Area Agencies on Aging to provide Support Broker services for those waiver client who choose the Consumer Directed Option for service provision.
- Currently evaluating the processes that are working with the ADRC Pilot and those needing improvement.
- Creation of a Cabinet for Health and Family Services Long Term Living Initiative Sub Committee on Single Point of Entry to provide direction to the Cabinet regarding policy for the immediate future of the Resource Market.
- Currently developing cross departmental process for Medicaid eligibility screening

The key element in making this project work was funding from both the Administration on Aging and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Kentucky has studied single point of entry for over 40 years and has piloted a small state funded process that included case management. The message received from these grant partners has fit in with the current Cabinet effort to break down the traditional silos that have in the past prevented such interdepartmental work groups from working collaboratively to develop policies and procedures that incorporate multiple departments.

The Kentucky Department for Aging and Independent Living is beginning to replicate the ADRC Pilot across the state. Funding has been advanced to the AAAs to develop the infrastructure for upgrading their information and assistance process. Both an Internal (Cabinet) and External (AAAs, Pilot staff) Work Groups have been started to coordinate policies and procedures so that the Resource Market will be in place in the next fiscal year across the state. Funding from SB 174 will be used across the state to provide not only information and assistance but training on future planning for aging caregivers.

For more information about the Kentucky Resource Market Place, please visit <http://www.kentucky.gov> or contact Commissioner Deborah S. Anderson at 502-564-6930 or by email at [deborah.anderson2@ky.gov](mailto:deborah.anderson2@ky.gov)